



1020th meeting of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

8:00PM Wednesday, March 28, 2001

Knights of Columbus Hall, 2800 Taraval St. at 38th Ave. San Francisco

“British Coin Weights”
Larry Reppeteau

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
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www.pcns.org

Bulletin Editor: Michael Wehner

Please join us this month to hear *Larry Reppeau* speak about British coin weights.

1019th meeting- February 2001

Herb Miles "The Invisible Empire"

The Ku Klux Klan, perhaps the most famous American vigilante group, produced many numismatic items. Drawing upon his extensive collection, Herb presented a history of the Klan and its beliefs. Herb qualified his presentation by stating that he hoped that listeners would take it in the spirit that it was given. In other words, disturbing as it may be, such organizations are a piece of our history and valuable lessons can be learned by studying this history.

Many of the genuine KKK tokens contain cryptic messages, words and abbreviations of this secret society. Herb explained that some were salutations, such as AYAK "Are You A Klansman?" and AKAI, "A Klansman I Am", while others conveyed philosophical beliefs, such as SYMWAO "Spend Your Money With Americans Only" and MIAFA "My Interests Are For America". Other medals and tokens showed symbols important to the Klan. Most notable in this group is the burning cross, although other themes such as the United States flag and constitution also appear. Other pictorial representations illustrate some of the targets of the Klan's hatred. These were perhaps the most disturbing items in Herb's collection as they put a face on the victims of the Klan's brand of violence. Herb also explained that there are many fake KKK items in the marketplace. Most of these are "too good to be true", meaning that they contain too many details or purport to date from very early periods of the KKK history. The entire forty-minute presentation, illustrated by slides of Herb's collection, was videotaped and is available to members on a lending basis for the cost of postage, \$3.00.

CSNA Symposium

The board of the California State Numismatic Society has approved support of a second educational symposium in Northern California. The society is pleased to again act as host. Details of date, location and agenda are currently being worked on.

Banquet

The PCNS annual Banquet will be held on June 30, 2001 at the Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant at 800 Taraval St, San Francisco, very close to our regular meeting place. Four choices will available: veal, prime rib, baked chicken or fish of the day. The cost per person will be \$32.00 apiece. A private room with plenty of room for Bingo has been reserved. Don't send any money yet, but mark this date on your calendar now!

Exhibits (summaries by *Herb Miles*)

Ron Johnson exhibited a set of new Euro coins, some casino chips, one with an indent, another with an inscription as a brewery token, a \$7 silver casino token, a 1944 P Jefferson Nickel with a rotated reverse, and an aluminum KKK token.

Lori Reppeau brought a 1945 gold 2 Pesos from Mexico and an ancient oil lamp which she calls a flashlight!

Steve Huston exhibited an early (1981) Hoffman & Hoffman silver advertising round picturing a unicorn and brought a grouping of his own plastic tokens from our 1000th meeting which any member could take. Steve also noted that CSNA is actively seeking articles for CalCoin News and that he and *Larry Reppeau* had received participant medals at the Fresno show for articles CSNA was allowed to republish!

Elliot Wehner brought some goodies he had received from the Carson City Mint, a Mormon medal showing a fort and steam

press, and a Nevada Sesquicentennial medal featuring a mine mountains, etc.

Ken Takahashi brought two coins mentioned in the stories of the Arabian Nights.

Cal Rogers brought his lone find from the Fresno show, a 750,000 Lira Air Games Coin from Turkey commemorating their first air games.

Paul Holtzman exhibited some ebay gems, a gold coin featuring the river marten, a Silver Cuban piece (84mm!) with a trogon, and a two-piece set picturing the bird of paradise.

Phil Nordin brought a nice grouping of first republic Philippine items; a KKK uncut currency sheet (but not Ku Klux Klan), and several banknotes and ribbons featuring two independence dates for the islands.

Ed Fulwider exhibited his group of current Heartland Coin Club medals and a medal that was used to raise funds to establish a Korean War memorial at Santa Nella.

Michael Wehner brought two anti-slavery tokens, a Condor “clasped hands” piece with edge markings “Payable in Dublin and Ballymurtagh”, and a Sierra Leone Macaulay & Babington copper penny token with inscription on the reverse reading “We are all Brethren” & “Slave Trade Abolished by Great Britain 1807” written in Arabic script.

George Proctor, horror of horrors, actually brought some coins and other pieces of metal; a racketeer nickel of 1883, a three cent piece, a half dime, a note he had previously left at the Smythe premises but which did not remain there on his last visit and some early Bank of America notes.

Larry Reppeau exhibited two items, a 1970 British Proof Set, and a Spanish copper maravedi counterstamped numerous time to revalue the piece, which was then given to Herb Miles for study and comment.

Frank Strazzarino showed off his CSNA aluminum medal as well as a proof Canadian 1984 silver dollar.

Jerry Schimmel brought some wonderful San Francisco saloon tokens circa the late 1800s to the early 1900s, one perhaps from 1950 or so, all of which have the word "saloon" written on them, and some hotel silverware probably washed and dried by his mother in her waitress duties around the city.

Raffle

Five lucky members brought home the following prizes:

- 1) A 3rd edition of the "Cherrypickers' Guide to Rare Die Varieties", by Fivaz & Stanton went to *Jerry Schimmel*.
- 2) A State of Iowa National Bank Certificate of Deposit, dated January 23, 1901, with a revenue stamp was won by *Ron Johnson*.
- 3) A sterling silver Austrian Mint Medal portraying Mercury on the obverse and a calendar of Sundays on the reverse was an additional prize won by *Ron Johnson*.
- 4) A copper Ku Klux Klan token was taken home by *George Proctor*.
- 5) Lastly, a California State Numismatic Association aluminum Fresno show token generously donated by the *Nordin*s went to *Ed Fulwider*, courtesy of *Ron Johnson*.

The Philippine KKK: The “First Republic” Phil Nordin



Vignette from a Philippine note

Occasionally, a numismatic item surfaces in the marketplace attributed to a Philippine branch of the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan did not operate in the Philippines, but a revolutionary group called the *Katipunan ng Mga Anak ng Bayan* (“Society of the Sons of the People”) was active in the late 1890’s through the turn of the century. This group is often abbreviated as the *Katipunan*, or more simply as “KKK”. The Katipunan was organized in the mid 1890’s against Spain, under the leadership of Andres Bonifacio, the “Father of Philippine Democracy”, and Emilio Aguinaldo, who became president of the first Philippine Republic. Aguinaldo declared Philippine independence on June 12, 1898, but the young nation was soon caught up in the Spanish-American War and became subject to U.S. administration in 1901. The Americans returned self-government to the Philippines on July 4, 1945, but because of the KKK’s efforts, Filipinos trace their independence day to the First Republic, as of June 12th. Aguinaldo authorized coins under the newly drafted constitution. Two types of copper coins, 26mm and 30mm, are known. Paper money was initially authorized under the same November 30, 1898, legislation, and was supplemented by presidential decree dated April 24, 1899. Notes of the First Republic may carry either of these two dates—or sometimes, both. The Katipunan is depicted on Philippine Central Bank 5 Piso notes from 1967 through 1985, which show a graphic blood ceremony. The “KKK” banner is prominently featured in the background. Uncut sheets are known for a few notes in this series. The same vignette is used on current-issue Philippine 10 Piso notes. Both Aguinaldo and Bonifacio are well represented on Filipino coins.

A medal from the Islam Temple Michael Wehner



Obverse: ISLAM TEMPLE / SAN FRANCISCO / (California state seal) / LOS ANGELES 1906

The Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine was founded in New York City in 1872 by a group of thirteen Masons who desired a new fraternity, in which fun and fellowship would be stressed more than ritual. Famous for funny hats, conventions, camel rides and formation parade maneuvers of go-karts and mini bikes, the Shriners have evolved into a philanthropic organization. A network of twenty-two hospitals specializing in children's needs and burn care are currently sponsored by the Shriners. The famous East-West Shrine College All-Star football game, most recently played in San Francisco at PacBell Park, is a major fundraiser for these activities. In 1997, their hospital in San Francisco on 19th Avenue was closed and replaced with a modern hospital in Sacramento. Each local chapter of this fraternal organization is called a "Temple". Chartered in 1883, the Islam Temple is the oldest Shrine temple in the western United States. (PCNS is the oldest numismatic society in the west.) Originally located in San Francisco, this temple now operates out of San Mateo.

This copper medal was likely part of a convention badge for an Islam Temple attendee to the 1906 convention in Los Angeles. The site of the convention was the then newly built Shrine Auditorium, a favorite location for Hollywood award shows as it is the largest auditorium in the country.

PCNS Web Site update.

PCNS Constitution and By-Laws are now posted on the Society's web site at www.pcns.org. Also, summaries of past and current PPIE auctions, including images and prices realized are available.

Results from the 4th PPIE Auction

The winning bid is in bold font.

Lot #	Description	Live bid	ebay reserve	ebay bid
31	PC Beauty	\$8	\$9	\$9
32	PC Duck Baby	\$8	\$9	\$7.51
33	PC Marin	\$15	\$16.50	\$16.50
34	PC Welcome	\$25	\$27.50	\$27.50
35	PC End of Trail	\$20	\$22	\$0
36	View Book	\$75	\$83	\$41
37	View Book	\$80	\$88	\$20.50
38	Sewing tools	\$30	\$33	\$20.50
39	Small Tower Tray	\$20	\$22.00	\$15.51
40	Blue jewel	\$390	\$430	\$575

Dues

2001 membership dues are now past due. If you have not paid yet, this will be the last issue of the Bulletin that you will receive. If you wish to renew, please remit \$10.00, payable to the PCNS, to the address shown on the front cover of this Bulletin. Please note that additional family members may join the Society at the discount rate of \$5.00 .

Auction #5 of PPIE artifacts from the PCNS archives

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A three part auction. Mail bid closes March 26, 2001. The live auction will be at the regular PCNS meeting on March 28, 2001 at which time the lots will be available for viewing. A 7-day ebay auction will be completed by the April meeting. Lots will be available for pickup at that time or will be shipped at bidder expense. Interested ebay bidders should search ebay for the seller id "mwehner".

Lot #41 Picture Book, "Sculpture and Mural Painting. Panama Pacific International Exposition". An extensive record of the art of the PPIE. , 12 by 9 inches, mint condition.

Lot #42 Picture Book, "Views of the Panama Pacific International Exposition, in Natural Colors". This large book of colored (!) photographs is in mint condition. It is by far the best preserved of any in the archives. Certainly rare in this condition.

Lot #43 Picture book. "Official Souvenir Viewbook of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, 40 pages of beautiful large engravings", brown soft cover, 12 by 9 inches. Small tear on front cover otherwise excellent condition.

Lot #44 Postcard. Butterick Exhibit, unused, excellent condition.

Lot #45 Postcard, Danish Building and Corner of Palace of Fine Art. Taken from a watercolor, not a photograph. Good condition, a few small creases. Unused.

Lot #46 Postcard. German village at the PPIE. Unused. Good condition. A few corner creases, marks on reverse.

Lot #47 Postcard. Statue entitled "Young Pan". NOT a real photo. Unused, excellent condition.

Lot #48 Postcard. The Land Divided, the World United. Nice allegorical images. Features of the Fair, Golden Gate, California State Seal, and Panama Canal. Reverse commemorates San Francisco Day. Companion piece to lot #34 of previous auction. Unused, excellent condition

The following two items, generously donated by Jerry Schimmel, are obviously not from the PPIE.

Lot #49. Aluminum Canadian Medal. Obverse: KING GEORGE V / QUEEN MARY (Busts of king and queen). Reverse: TO COMMEMORATE THEIR MAJESTIC CORONATION/ 1911 (royal shield emblem) 36mm diameter. Attached Fob reads "SASKATCHEWAN SANITARIUM" Almost Uncirculated.

Lot #50 British Medal. Obverse: IN COMMEMORATION OF THE JUBILEE REICH OF H.M.C.M. QUEEN VICTORIA / 1837-1887 (Bust of queen) Reverse: BOROUGH OF CROYDON (arms) 38mm diameter, white metal, a small rim ding. Almost Uncirculated.

